GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:113
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002
AIR CONNECTIVITY WITH EUROPE
SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the meaures taken by the Government to increase the air connectivity with the CIS countries;

(b) the number of high spending tourists visited India from CIS countries during the last 12 months; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the European countries to increase flight capacities to India and the percentage of increase in international tourists during the last two years and the reasons thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) Air Services Agreements have been signed with 13 countries which were constituents of the Former Soviet Unionand capacity entitlement have been agreed with each one of them during bilateral civil aviation discussions. At present the current entitlements with the CIS countries is of the order of 2.5 million seats per annum for both sides combined.

(b) The number of tourists who visited India from the CIS countries during the year 2001 is 24831.

(c) During 2000 and 2001 the total entitlement with the European and CIS countries was enhancedby 1.24 million and 0.82 million seats per annum respectively.

During the year 2001 the tourists arrival from European Country have declined by about 6.3% from that of the year 2000.

The reason for decline of international tourist arrivals was mainly due to worldwide economic downturn and the tragic events of September 11, 2001.